Legal Aid Manitoba
L'Aide Juridique du Manitoba

Twenty-Eighth Annual Report

March 31, 2000

101-01592/

The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba

L'Aide Juridique du Manitoba

Annual Report

2000

TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2000

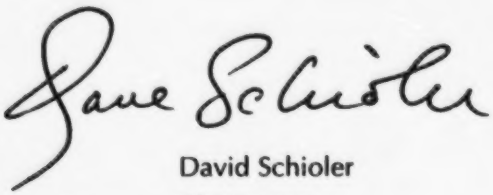
The Honourable Gord Mackintosh
Minister of Justice
Room 104
Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0V8

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Section 28 of the Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba Act, I am pleased to submit the Twenty-eighth Annual Report for the Society for the year ending March 31, 2000.

Detailed statistical information relating to clients, cases and costs is included. The report of the Provincial Auditor and financial statements is attached. Also included is the Audited Statement of Compensation Paid to Board Members and Employees and the Statement of Private Bar Fees and Disbursements in excess of $50,000 in accordance with Section 2 and 4 of the Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act.

Respectfully submitted,



David Schioler
Chairperson
Board of Directors

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THE CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Throughout the fiscal year ending March 31, 2000, the Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba has provided comprehensive, quality legal advice and services to individuals, groups and organizations who are unable to pay for a portion or all of the legal aid provided to them. The Board of Directors of the Society is once again pleased to recognize that the Society is able to maintain its high standard of service due to sound governance, and the excellent effort, knowledge and skill of both management and staff. The Board wishes also to acknowledge the invaluable contribution of private bar lawyers and their staff for providing legal aid services to Manitobans over this past year.

Board of Directors

The Board is pleased to advise that governance of the Society has remained in an excellent state over the past year. In fact, during fiscal year 1999/2000, our Board has been comprised of individuals who have been and are making tremendous contributions to Legal Aid Manitoba in ensuring that the Board continues to provide value to the Legal Aid Services Society. The Board has continued to promote and develop sound, innovative policy and support the efforts of management and staff.

The Board wishes to pay particular credence to the efforts of the following individuals who have served on the Board throughout the year.

David Schioler - Chairperson
Roger Kane - Vice-Chairperson
John Atamanchuk
Vic Bargen
Corinne Armbruster*
Rob Dewar*
Bill Malcolm*
Barb Filuk
Brian Preston
Lori Ferguson-Sain*
Marietta Pellettieri*
Joan Harris*
Aaron Berg**
Norm Yusim**
Randy McNicol**

*These Board Members joined the Board in July 1999.
**These Board Members served to August 1999.

The Board committee structure has continued to help optimize the quality of legal aid service delivery and ensure the sound financial management of the Society.

As indicated in previous Annual Reports, the Board of the Legal Aid Services Society also serves in an adjudicative, appeal capacity. In this regard, the Board hears appeals from the decisions of the Executive Director with respect to taxation of accounts of private bar lawyers, and also with respect to the eligibility of applicants for legal aid, both on the basis of merit and financial eligibility. The Chair is once again pleased to advise that Board members including the valuable contribution of new board members, have been performing at a particularly high standard in this regard.

Management and Staff

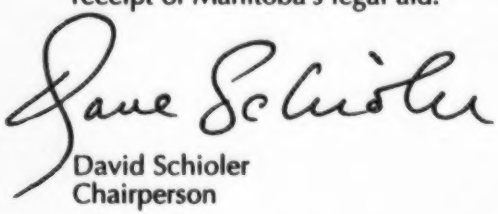
The Board also wishes to once again recognize the role that the Society's management has played in ensuring that quality service has been provided to legal aid clients over the past year. The Board wishes to recognize, once again, the efforts of the Executive Director, Gerry McNeilly, who has helped to bring the Society to a new level of policy development and initiative. The Board intends to encourage and support its Executive Director in combined efforts toward the provision of quality legal aid service to the Society's clients. This year, Mr. McNeilly intends to introduce a strategic plan for Legal Aid Manitoba, complete with Board and staff participation in development of that plan. The Executive Director is presently taking substantial initiatives in areas of training and development, particularly with respect to the areas of mediation (alternative dispute resolution), computer skills and strategy. The Board also intends to continue to promote and encourage the training and development of management and staff to continue to advance the quality of service provided to Legal Aid Manitoba clients.

In Conclusion

As revealed in the Chairperson's report three years ago, a Legal Aid Task Force was struck in an attempt to improve and enhance the service and delivery of legal aid to the citizens of Manitoba and to advance the development of Manitoba's Legal Aid tariff system. Various task force recommendations continue to be instituted, while yet others are being considered by government, the Board and management at Legal Aid.

This year the Minister of Justice, Mr. Gord Mackintosh, formally thanked the Legal Aid Task Force participants.

Finally, the Chair wishes once again to acknowledge the efforts of Legal Aid management, staff and the significant contributions and cooperation provided by the private bar lawyers of Manitoba over the past year. These efforts have all helped to continue with the provision of quality legal services to those individuals, groups and organizations in receipt of Manitoba's legal aid.



David Schioler
Chairperson

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

It has been my pleasure to work with the staff of Legal Aid Manitoba, the Board of Directors and the private bar for the past year.

This has been a year which brought many changes and new initiatives.

Our major goal for 1999-2000 was to continue to improve service to our clients and stakeholders, by providing a high quality of service, with improved communication.

In this regard we developed a new mission statement to take us into the new millennium. The new mission statement:

> Legal Aid Manitoba is committed to ensuring equal access to justice for all Manitobans was adopted by the staff at its biannual seminar in December 1999.

Staff have been encouraged to do more outreach work in the communities we serve.

This mission statement will set the tone and goals for the organization.

A draft business plan for the next five years has been prepared and circulated to senior staff and members of the Board for discussion purposes. The business plan focuses on pursuing strategic goals in three specific areas:

1. Mandate and service delivery;

2. Quality assurance; and

3. Financial efficiencies.

The Legal Aid Board of Directors saw some changes. New appointments were made to replace three members whose terms expired, as well as three vacancies which existed.

On behalf of the staff of Legal Aid Manitoba and the Board of Directors, we thank the members whose terms expired and wish Aaron Berg, Randy McNicol and Norm Yusim, all the best as they move on to other ventures. They will be sorely missed. Their combined years (approximately 65 years) serving as Board members were invaluable. Their commitment above reproach. We thank them for their dedicated and valued services. Thanks from all of us.

Changes and New Initiatives

Amicus Curiae:

Work in both custody and access matters and child protection matters continued to increase throughout the year. A Steering committee was struck to develop a report recommending criteria and procedure for adoption by the judiciary and the legal profession. This report will be submitted in the fall of 2000.

Amalgamation and Relocation:

As with any organization, it becomes necessary to reassess our status. In this regard, Legal Aid Manitoba will be undergoing office amalgamations of the family law offices into one branch and the criminal law offices into another branch. Both of these new amalgamated offices are slated to be relocated as part of the amalgamation process.

Duty Counsel:

a) We continue to expand and enhance our circuit duty counsel project. A number of contracts were entered into with members of the private bar to provide this service.

b) We have also entered into some contracts with private bar counsel to provide legal services in under-serviced areas of the province, specifically, in the field of domestic law.

Unusual Cases:

The aboriginal street gang file continues to be case managed through the administrative office. The estimation for the duration of this trial is that this matter will continue over the next two (2) fiscal years.

Poverty Law Section:

The poverty law section was expanded by the increase of one staff lawyer, with some assistance by a paralegal.

This section has been implemented as a part of the overall services provided by Legal Aid Manitoba. Focus is on health, welfare, disability, pension, insurance, residential tenancies and mental health law. The lawyers are also very involved in public legal education and community outreach.

The increasing demand in this area of the law is mandating that Legal Aid Manitoba implement this program and pursue vigorously this provision of services in the poverty law area.

Domestic Certificate Changes:

Attendance at "For the Sake of the Children" program, a "parental education program", has been encouraged, where custody and access are at issue. In the next fiscal year the intent is to make attendance mandatory. Attendance will be a factor to be considered in trial approval through our case management process.

Facilitated Settlement Meetings:

In order to reduce cost to Legal Aid Manitoba, in domestic matters, a project to provide an alternative to the trial process is under consideration.

The Facilitated Settlement Meetings project will commence in the next fiscal year. The purpose being to conduct settlement meetings to attempt to resolve matters.

Legal staff will be trained in the technique of mediation to conduct these "Facilitated Settlement Meetings", with a view to resolve matters outside of a trial. This process is not to replace the existing court settlement process. Instead, its purpose is to hopefully bring matters to an early conclusion while realizing cost savings to Legal Aid Manitoba.

Additionally, in the next fiscal year, attendance at these meetings will be a factor considered in requests for trial approval, through the case management process.

Maple Leaf Foods Pork Processing Facility:

We are experiencing an increase in demand for service because of the Maple Leaf processing facility.

University of Manitoba Law Centre:

We have committed to re-establishing full service at the University of Manitoba Law Centre, cut a few years ago as an austerity measure.

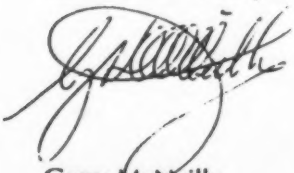
Tariff Holdback:

After many years of imposing a 12% holdback, Legal aid was successful in getting sufficient funding to reduce the holdback to 5% for 1999/2000. While the Board favours eventual removal of the holdback in its entirety, financial circumstances deem it necessary to maintain the holdback this fiscal year.

Legal Aid Manitoba has had visits from a number of delegates from other Canadian jurisdictions, as well as a delegation from the Lord Chancellor's office of Great Britain, interested in both our dual service delivery system (staff and private bar) and our Full Service Duty Counsel System. These visits were very positive, in that, some of what we do are to be copied and implemented elsewhere.

In conclusion this fiscal year saw Legal Aid Manitoba facing many challenges, some financial. All in all we were able to move ahead positively. Our duty counsel service continues to be extremely effective. We served about 81,000 Manitobans.

Legal Aid Manitoba is committed to ensuring equal access to justice for all Manitobans. Equal access combined with efficient and effective service.



Gerry McNeilly
Executive Director

PUBLIC INTEREST LAW CENTRE 1999/00

The mandate of the Public Interest Law Centre is to represent groups and organizations on public interest and low income issues of law. The Centre also takes individual test cases when issues of public importance are presented, affecting a broad class of persons. In order to maximize the service provided, the Centre carries a mixed portfolio of cases and projects, with an emphasis on equality rights, aboriginal issues, social welfare and public services, and consumer matters.

There were several significant victories in the past year. In the *G.* case, the Supreme Court upheld a Charter right to state-paid legal services in child protection proceedings, thereby expanding the rights of low income litigants beyond the criminal justice context. The Centre represented a national anti-poverty coalition. Just prior to the fall 1999 Manitoba general election, the Queen's Bench struck down the latest provision denying voting rights to prisoners. As a result, for the fourth consecutive time, all prisoners were included in the process of choosing a new provincial government. By contrast, the Federal Court of Appeal overturned an earlier victory won by the Centre for federal prisoners under the Canada Elections Act. An application for leave to appeal was filed with the Supreme Court and is presently pending.

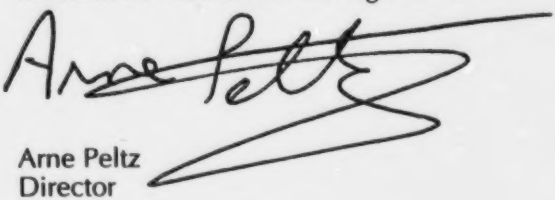
Once again, the Centre was active in representing consumers before public utility tribunals. Manitoba consumers saved millions of dollars when the Centre persuaded PUB to order a second successive reduction in the rates of Manitoba Public Insurance (MPI) and a reserve target $15 to $20 million lower than the level proposed by MPI.

The recent Winnipeg arson crisis focussed public attention on unmet housing needs in the inner city, and the Centre has become involved in a number of projects designed to facilitate housing replacement and renewal. The Centre also initiated a court challenge against provincial public housing rent regulations which penalize tenants supported by student loans. In another high profile case, the Centre acted for disability groups seeking an injunction to open the blockaded downtown Winnipeg skywalk. The case was successfully settled while the court judgement was reserved. Other challenges were filed concerning ex parte domestic violence orders and the denial of methadone treatment for prisoners with heroin addictions. Work continued actively on several major Aboriginal claims which are in settlement negotiations. Expert evidence and constitutional arguments were filed in a multi-million dollar Employment Insurance challenge to amendments imposing more stringent qualification rules.

The Manitoba Law Foundation continued to provide core funding. Self generated revenues, including cost recoveries, client contributions, litigation grants and donations from members of the Manitoba Bar Association under the Pro Bono Public Interest Project, reached $265,000, separate and apart from Law Foundation support. Under the Pro Bono project, a number of lawyers took on test cases without fee,

donated their legal aid billings, or made cash donations. At the Bar Mid-Winter meeting, Chief Justice Richard Scott presented recognition awards to John Meyers (Taylor McCaffrey) for work on a number of public interest cases and to the firm of Aikins MacAulay & Thorvaldson for continuing financial support to the Centre. The Chief Justice also recognized the Legal Aid Lawyers Association (staff lawyers employed across Manitoba by Legal Aid Manitoba) for personal donations made to the Centre. Thus, the Centre has continued to generate a substantial amount of revenue, allowing for the continued provision of a broad range of public interest legal services with minimal cost to the general legal aid budget.

The Centre's work on behalf of its clients inevitably involves, from time to time, an adversarial relationship with government, and therefore the maintenance of such financial independence is vital. The "independence principle" has been recognized and supported by the Legal Aid Board of Directors, the Bar and each successive Attorney-General for many years. Without fearless and effective representation by the Centre on these sensitive public law issues, some voices simply would not be heard in the courts and the legislatures.



Arne Peltz
Director

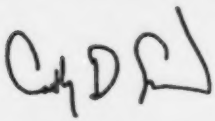
FAMILY LAW CENTRE

The Family Law Centre, including the Poverty Law Office, is located at 500-294 Portage Avenue in Winnipeg. At this time last year our staff was comprised of one supervising attorney, two lawyers, two paralegals and 1 3/4 secretaries. In January 2000 we added a lawyer and, as a result, we also increased our secretarial component to two.

Two of our lawyers practice mainly family law, with one having a significant mental health law practice as well. The paralegals assist with family law, provide duty counsel services at Osborne House and other women's shelters and make hospital visits, particularly for the purpose of doing intake in mental health matters.

The addition of a lawyer at the beginning of the year 2000 increased the staff of the Poverty Law Office to two lawyers. These lawyers practice poverty law, dealing with legal issues that affect poor people particularly. The bulk of their work is in welfare and Canada Pension Plan disability law, but they also do some residential tenancies, private disability insurance, Manitoba Public Insurance, Workers Compensation and debtor/creditor cases.

Our lawyers regularly participate in outreach and public legal education by way of presentations to community groups.



Cathy D. Sherman
Supervising Attorney

CRIMINAL TRIAL CENTRE

Designed to specialize in criminal trial and appellate work, our office has now been in existence for almost five years having opened on September 4, 1995. The exclusive focus on criminal law has resulted in an office with an impressive skill and competency level in what is ever becoming a more specialized and fluctuating legal field.

The Trial Centre has a staff of 7. Fred Sandhu is the Supervising Attorney, with a total of 4 lawyers. Crystal Laquette has joined our office from Dauphin Legal Aid and we are very pleased to have her. Ms Leona Hogue continues to be the administrative and senior secretary. Other trial staff consists of Boris Hwozdulych, Greg Hawrysh and Ken McCaffrey. Lastly, the articling student position has been filled on a rotation of three students.

Located relatively near the Law Courts Complex in the heart of downtown Winnipeg at 416 - 294 Portage Avenue, we act for clients throughout the City, and on major cases throughout the Province. We also serve the rural community of Pine Falls, and several remote communities along the eastern shore of Lake Winnipeg as follows:

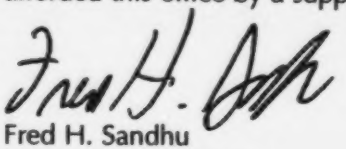
1) Berens River, Bloodvein - one lawyer for at least two days each month;
2) Little Grand Rapids, Pauingassi, Poplar River - one lawyer also at least two days per month;
3) Pine Falls - one lawyer at least three days per month.

Greg Hawrysh is the office circuit duty counsel and is responsible for all out of Winnipeg duty counsel circuits.

The office is also responsible for duty counsel in Winnipeg at the narcotics in Federal Prosecution docket Court - Wednesday of each month by either a student or a lawyer.

The Criminal Trial Centre is dedicated to the delivery of high quality legal services in the criminal law field. The measuring of success in such a field is often difficult, but there should be no doubt that the office's success rate in the past at trial has been very high. This is both a reflection of

the quality of the personnel in the office and of the independence afforded this office by a supportive administration.



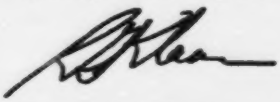
Fred H. Sandhu
Supervising Attorney

DROP IN CENTRE

All drop-ins in the City of Winnipeg are seen at the Drop-In Centre located at 416-294 Portage Avenue. The Drop-In Centre is open from 1:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday every week.

The workload is evenly shared among the legal aid staff of all the Winnipeg offices. This staff consists of 32 lawyers, eight paralegals, six articling students, and five intake officers. Each day that the Drop-In Centre is open, four staff members are drawn on rotation from these other offices to provide service. Present each of the three afternoons are one lawyer, one paralegal, one articling student and one intake officer. This staff configuration ensures that there is at least one staff person available to cover every possible need or request as clients attend the Drop-In Centre for a variety of reasons (e.g. for advice, for information, to complete legal aid applications, etc.).

Although demand is high and the pace each afternoon is busy, the centralization of Winnipeg drop-ins in one location has improved the quality, efficiency and convenience of this service.



Ronald G. Klassen
Deputy Director

BROADWAY COMMUNITY OFFICE

The Broadway Community Office is located at 635 Broadway and provides criminal legal services to adults and young offenders. The staff is comprised of one supervising attorney, twelve attorneys, two students, two paralegals, and five support staff.

In Adult court, we provide a full service duty counsel service in three distinct areas. Two lawyers staff our domestic violence unit and provide representation in Domestic violence court on Monday mornings in courtroom 301. In addition, they handle all trials coming out of this courtroom.

Adult Criminal Duty counsel services are provided in courtrooms 304 (bail court), 119 (intake court) and 302 (disposition court), daily. Matters are handled by staff up to the setting of a trial, if they cannot be disposed of in some manner. At that time the matter will be handed off to the Criminal Trial centre.

Immigration matters are handled by one lawyer. This consists of inquiries, detention reviews, immigration appeal board hearings, refugee claims, and Federal Court Appeals.

Lastly, the office provides a duty counsel service at the Federal Penitentiary for representation of prisoners at disciplinary hearings. This is done on a bi-weekly basis.

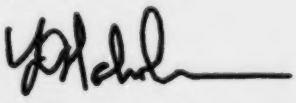
Duty counsel is also provided at the waive in court on a weekly basis.

In addition, during the past year, the office has assumed responsibility for duty counsel circuits in Island Lake, Garden Hill, Portage La Prairie, and Morden.

In Youth Court, we provide duty counsel services in Courtroom 301(intake court) on Tuesdays and Thursdays, in Federal Drug Docket court on a bi-weekly basis, and at the Manitoba Youth Centre on a daily basis. We have continued to provide duty counsel on circuit in Portage la Prairie on a bi-weekly basis, and have assumed the Pine Falls circuit, which sits monthly. Staff also carry a full case load in addition to their duty counsel responsibilities.

Lawyers on staff have continued the practice of speaking to various schools, Red River College, and other groups, such as the TRY program, concerning the Young Offenders Act and the criminal justice system. One staff lawyer is present on the board of directors of MacDonald Youth Services.

The past year has been a trying one due to staffing shortages and the assumption of a number of circuits, without an increase in staffing levels. The staff at the Broadway office are to be commended for their dedication and hard work in providing quality legal services to our clients, this past year.



William L. Malcolm
Supervising Attorney

MAIN STREET COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES

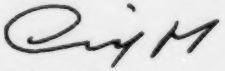
Main Street Community Legal Services is located in the core area of Winnipeg at 212 McDermot Avenue which is 1/2 block off Main Street. The staff is comprised of 6 lawyers, 2 students, 1 paralegal, 1 office manager and 5 secretaries.

Our paralegal, who was seconded to the Broadway office to cover a maternity leave, returned to us on January 25, 2000.

The Main Street office continues to provide duty counsel services at the Osborne House facility for abused women, the Steinbach Youth Criminal Circuit, the Fisher Branch Criminal Circuit, and the Lundar Criminal Circuit.

In addition to certificate and duty counsel services, the office also provides drop-in advice through attendances at the drop-in centre, home visits, Stony Mountain and Headingly Jail. Informal files include the preparation of wills and powers of attorney.

The Main Street office looks forward to providing efficient quality service over the upcoming fiscal year.



Gil Clifford
Supervising Attorney

CHILD PROTECTION LAW OFFICE

The Child Protection Law Office is located on the second floor of the Main Street Community Office at 212 McDermot Avenue, in Winnipeg. We are servicing Manitobans who require legal representation in the area of child welfare matters.

In the past year, we have handled certificate work in the areas of child welfare and domestic law. We provide duty counsel service two mornings each week at child protection dockets in Winnipeg, two mornings each month at the St. Boniface child protection docket, and one morning a month at the child protection docket in Pine Falls, Manitoba. We provide informal in-office advice to children who may not require formal representation, but are requested to speak to counsel by Judges, Court Masters or child welfare Agencies. We are also appointed as counsel on an *amicus* basis for children in child protection matters. We are frequently being requested to serve as *amicus* in contested domestic proceedings involving children.

We have continued to provide "on call" services on a seven day a week basis. This service is available until 10:00 p.m. Although volume is low, this service does result in new certificates and ready access to our existing clients.

We have continued to do significant amounts of community outreach with presentations made on a regular basis at a wide range of related agencies and institutions. As well, we continue our regular involvement with both the Law Society Bar Admission Course and the University Law School. We also continue to service the legal community as a resource that many lawyers and agencies turn to for advice in this area of the law.

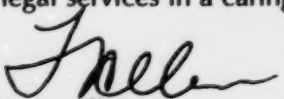
Through much of the reporting period (from June, 1999 to March, 2000), we had a third lawyer in our office. Unfortunately, this lawyer was hired away by the private bar and we are continuing with two lawyers.

The past year, due in no small part to the ongoing implications of a Supreme Court ruling which guarantees lawyers in child welfare cases up to and including trial, we have had a considerable number of contested trials. Additionally, the large number of *amicus* matters handled in this office has put additional strain on our resources.

Our objective to be recognized as providing *amicus* expertise has resulted in a ballooning caseload and significantly stressed our efficiency.

We continue to maintain a registry of psychologists and independent social workers who prepare assessments for Court purposes. We are also frequently requested to provide suggestions as to rehabilitative resources.

Our goals remain to be of service to our clients and provide quality legal services in a caring and efficient manner.



Larry Allen
Supervising Attorney

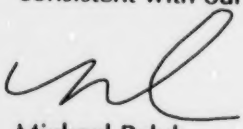
ABORIGINAL CENTRE LAW OFFICE

During the past year, the Aboriginal Centre Law Office has pursued a new direction. The community law centre is now working on a number of new cases involving matters of interest to a large number of Aboriginal people. They include issues of Aboriginal rights, civil rights, housing, education and health services for Aboriginal people. It is our goal to distinguish ourselves both in Manitoba and in Canada as a resource for individuals aggrieved by racism and discrimination (system and non-system) as well as by violations of their human and civil rights.

Our intention is to adhere to our mission statement which is to provide legal aid services in a manner which is consistent with the traditions and values of Aboriginal people. That means, in part, that we will endeavour to find non-adversarial and consensus approaches to the resolution of legal problems. Approaches may include advocacy at many levels, including political advocacy, literary and media comment as well as pub-

lic legal education in a variety of forums. As well, we will want to look at other methods for dispute resolution as alternatives to litigation. We also wish to promote respect for Aboriginal models of healing and reconciliation where relationships between individuals and/or organizations have been harmed.

In order to facilitate the transition to this direction, the centre has been undergoing a process of devolution from our criminal, youth and family court case loads. The centre has also been divested of its responsibility for the circuit court duty counsel assignment in the Island Lakes area which had been a significant commitment of our limited resources for a small office. We consider, however, all types of cases, meaning civil and criminal as well as youth and family matters where there is an identifiable issue of larger concern to Aboriginal people as appropriate and consistent with our purpose.



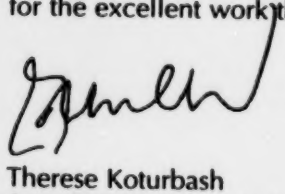
Michael Paluk
Supervising Attorney

PARKLANDS COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

Parklands Community Law Centre serves the people of west central Manitoba. Our office is located in Dauphin. We provide criminal, youth, domestic and administrative law services to communities like Amaranth, Ashern, Camperville, Dauphin, Roblin and Swan River.

We are three lawyers, a paralegal and four support persons.

Our office is a busy one. Our dedicated staff continue to provide top quality legal services to the poor and working poor. I commend our staff for the excellent work they do.



Therese Koturbash
Area Director/Supervising Attorney

WESTMAN COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

The Brandon Office services south western Manitoba with a largely rural population. The region is prosperous. The population base has been more or less stable but, given the booming service economy largely caused by the Maple Leaf Hog Plant, the capacity of this office has been reached and, indeed, exceeded. Services are provided by the supervising attorney, three staff lawyers, a paralegal, intake worker and three support staff. A substantial and ever increasing portion of the office's efforts are

devoted to area director activities, but the majority of the efforts are still directed to providing legal services to Legal Aid clients and client groups.

The office provides Duty Counsel services to the three Brandon Courts, being adult, youth and drug, Russell, Rossburn, Minnedosa, Virden, Neepawa and Waywayseecappo, on a regular basis. Duty Counsel service to the other outlying courts is provided on an as-needed basis.

The office also provides informal advice on a regular basis. Callers wishing a consultation with a lawyer receive telephone advice on the day on which they call. If follow up work is required, the lawyer will make an appointment for the person very shortly. Callers wishing to apply for Legal Aid, whether through this office or with a specific choice of counsel can usually obtain an appointment with the Intake Worker within a matter of days for that purpose. All four lawyers accept emergency telephone calls after hours and take whatever action is required in response, such as attending to the police station, RCMP Detachments, Brandon Correctional Institute or Adult Psychiatric Unit.

Our agreement with the Westman Women's Shelter continues in effect. Residents of that shelter are guaranteed an almost immediate intake interview with either the Paralegal or a lawyer, either at the shelter or at this office at their option. We have found that most residents of the shelter prefer to attend to this office.

On an informal basis, office staff continue their participation in community and board activities.

The Westman Community Law Centre has continued to be productive. The Law Centre is a "Community Law Centre" in that, in conjunction with its role of Area office, it functions to service the needs of those in the community most needing those services. The majority of criminal, youth and family matters are handled by lawyers at the request of our clients. Almost all non-request matters are handled by staff lawyers in the absence of conflicts. The planned addition by Maple Leaf of a second shift will, however, very likely reduce the capacity of this office to function in the way it always has. This change is likely to come about quite soon.

Lorne Giesbrecht
Area Director/Supervisory Attorney

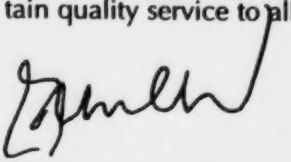
THOMPSON COMMUNITY LAW CENTER

We have terrific staff at the Thompson Community Law Center and we do terrific work. We continue to serve Thompson and 14 additional communities. We have four lawyers, two paralegal's, and three secretaries. The Northlands Area Director's Office has relocated from The Pas

to Thompson. We anticipate that soon a permanent replacement will be found for Doreen Ander who retires this year. She served for almost 20 years as the Assistant to the Area Director. We will miss Doreen and her outstanding dedication to Legal Aid.

We continue to offer drop-in services in Norway House, Cross Lake, and Nelson House. The "First Nations Justice Strategy" continues to expand. We are all supportive of the project and are pleased with the benefits to our clients.

The role of the Area Director office is most challenging. The shortage of lawyers in the North is problematic, but we do our best to maintain quality service to all Legal Aid applicants.



Theresa McDonald
Supervising Attorney/Area Director

NORTHLANDS COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

Northlands Community Law Centre, in The Pas, provides Legal Aid services to The Pas and surrounding communities. Staff consists of the supervising attorney, two staff lawyers, one paralegal, one articling student and two full-time secretaries plus a half-time secretary.

Staff attend Provincial Court (Criminal and Family) and Youth Court as Duty Counsel on a regular basis at the following locations: Pukatawagan, Flin Flon, Cranberry Portage, Snow Lake, Moose Lake, The Pas, Easterville and Grand Rapids. In addition, staff attend Queen's Bench Criminal and Family court in both The Pas and Flin Flon. Staff also appear in front of tribunals from time to time including the Licence Suspension Appeal Board, Social Assistance Appeal Board, Residential Tenancies Board and the Disciplinary Board at The Pas Correctional Institute.

The office at The Pas is open from 8:30 A.M. to noon and 1:00 P.M. to 4:30 P.M., from Monday to Friday and provides advice and assistance on a drop-in basis whenever staff are available. The domestic lawyer attends at the local crisis shelter on an as-needed basis. In addition, a drop-in clinic is held at The Pas Correctional Institute on a weekly basis by the student to provide services to both sentenced prisoners and remand prisoners. Drop-in and Advice Clinics are held at most circuit locations on a regular basis, normally in conjunction with Court. In addition, the paralegal also attends Pukatawagan on a monthly basis.

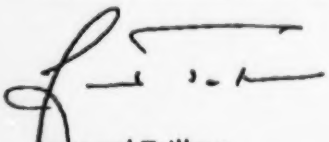
The court party has been regularly attending Pukatawagan Provincial Judges Court since December 17, 1998. This was after a considerable period of time in which the court party's right to attend at Pukatawagan

was suspended by the Mathias Colomb Band (November 1996).

The office has fully modernized its computer system and is now networked with the main office in Winnipeg. The office is also intra-office networked.

The criminal law lawyers have met their objective of dealing with all non-request Legal Aid applications and also being choice of counsel on a frequent basis. A strong level of service is offered through both the certificate and (regular and expanded) duty counsel programs. Drop-in service has been greatly enhanced by the staff addition of our Cree-English bilingual paralegal in 1997.

With the retirement of Doreen Ander from The Pas office the Area Director matters have now been fully integrated in the Thompson office.



Leonard Tailleur
Supervising Attorney

Legal Aid Activity by Area

For the Year Ended March 31, 2000
(with the 1999 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Area	Applications for Legal Aid Certificates	Applications Refused	Certificates Issued Civil	Criminal	Youth	Certificates Cancelled	Persons Assisted by Duty Counsel
Brandon	1,553	252	683	397	115	123	2,970
	(1,711)	(105)	(757)	(5,077)	(1,088)	(1,909)	(3,815)
Dauphin	1,843	118	537	454	101	146	2,259
	(2,119)	(92)	(546)	(1,034)	(222)	(57)	(2,667)
The Pas & Thompson	2,291	224	696	1,109	215	197	7,302
	(2,286)	(156)	(709)	(505)	(117)	(143)	(6,838)
Winnipeg	16,355	1,786	6,587	5,409	1,071	2,519	29,462
	(16,039)	(1,752)	(6,714)	(417)	(120)	(214)	(37,366)
Provincial Total	22,042	2,380	8,503	7,369	1,502	2,985	41,993
	(22,155)	(2,105)	(8,726)	(7,033)	(1,547)	(2,323)	(50,686)

NOTES:

1. *In the fiscal year ended March 31, 2000 there was a total of 17,374 (17,306) certificates issued; of this total 4,668 (4,806) were issued to staff lawyers through the following community law centres.*

Winnipeg	*– Family Law*	*349*	*(474)*
	– Criminal Trial	*546*	*(582)*
	– Main	*1,124*	*(1,089)*
	– Youth	*64*	*(67)*
	– Child Protection	*365*	*(365)*
	– Broadway Adult	*190*	*(161)*
	– Aboriginal	*111*	*(290)*
Westman		*495*	*(498)*
Parklands		*458*	*(473)*
Northlands		*505*	*(373)*
Thompson		*461*	*(434)*
		4,668	*(4,806)*

2. *In the fiscal year ended March 31, 2000 there was a total of 41,993 (50,686) people assisted by Duty Counselling Services; of this total 40,328 (49,249) were assisted by staff lawyers through the following community law centres.*

Winnipeg	*– Family Law*	*Nil*	*(31)*
	– Criminal Trial	*1,192*	*(2,013)*
	– Main	*185*	*(Nil)*
	– Youth	*8,773*	*(7,752)*
	– Child Protection	*461*	*(309)*
	– Broadway Adult	*18,133*	*(26,549)*
	– Aboriginal	*30*	*(210)*
Westman		*2,921*	*(3,683)*
Parklands		*2,149*	*(2,626)*
Northlands		*1,991*	*(1,714)*
Thompson		*4,493*	*(4,362)*
		40,328	*(49,249)*

(Table continued on next page)

3. *For the year ended March 31, 2000 2,380 (10.8%) of the applications for Legal Aid were refused as compared to 2,105 (9.5%) in the previous year.*

4. *For the year ended March 31, 2000 there was a total of 17,374 (19,072) telephone and drop-in inquiries and 4,198 (4,036) non-certificate files opened for a total of 21,572 (23,108) people assisted. The following represents the breakdown by community law centre.*

Winnipeg	*– Administration*	*1,530*	*(1,412)*
	– Family Law	*1,421*	*(1,102)*
	– Criminal Trial	*266*	*(421)*
	– Main	*617*	*(1,005)*
	– Youth	*1,752*	*(1,525)*
	– Child Protection	*369*	*(374)*
	– Broadway Adult	*1,869*	*(2,132)*
	– Aboriginal	*723*	*(863)*
	– University	*603*	*(492)*
Westman		*3,821*	*(3,900)*
Parklands		*2,375*	*(2,533)*
Northlands		*2,741*	*(3,938)*
Thompson		*3,485*	*(3,411)*
		21,572	*(23,108)*

5. *For the year ended March 31, 2000 there was a total of 80,939 (91,100) people assisted either on a formal or informal basis.*

Analysis of Certificates Issued
For the Year Ended March 31, 2000
(with the 1999 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Certificate Classification	Private Bar	Law Centres	Totals
CRIMINAL ADULT			
Murder	23 (24)	4 (3)	27 (27)
Attempt Murder	27 (19)	3 (6)	30 (25)
Manslaughter	4 (3)	Nil (Nil)	4 (3)
Sexual Assault - A	12 (9)	6 (4)	18 (13)
Sexual Assault - Indictable	160 (186)	58 (64)	218 (250)
Assault - B	148 (144)	22 (27)	170 (171)
Robbery	346 (309)	35 (36)	381 (345)
Cause Harm/Death	25 (39)	6 (7)	31 (46)
Other Sexual Offences - B	53 (48)	13 (13)	66 (61)
Arson	39 (41)	11 (11)	50 (52)
Narcotics - B	207 (187)	37 (40)	244 (227)
Incest	1 (1)	1 (Nil)	2 (1)
Sexual Assault - Summary	69 (62)	26 (19)	95 (81)
Miscellaneous - B	18 (22)	2 (3)	20 (25)
Other Sexual Offences - C	15 (23)	9 (6)	24 (29)
Break, Enter	682 (689)	107 (135)	789 (824)
Possess Weapon Dangerous to Public Peace	149 (181)	48 (37)	197 (218)
Theft - Indictable	96 (90)	21 (14)	117 (104)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Indictable	73 (83)	10 (11)	83 (94)
Forgery/Uttering	52 (79)	11 (21)	63 (100)
Fraud - Indictable	34 (40)	15 (14)	49 (54)
False Pretences - Indictable	Nil (6)	Nil (1)	Nil (7)

(Table continued on next page)

Certificate Classification	Private Bar	Law Centres	Totals
Mischief	149 (147)	26 (24)	175 (171)
U.A.L./Escape	50 (30)	8 (5)	58 (35)
Other Weapons Offences - C	66 (57)	16 (16)	82 (73)
Set Fire to Substance	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
Communication for the Purpose	22 (7)	1 (2)	23 (9)
Other Narcotics - C	94 (88)	16 (26)	110 (114)
M.V.O. - Federal	223 (233)	67 (76)	290 (309)
Uttering Threats	359 (390)	95 (72)	454 (462)
Obstruction	23 (25)	3 (9)	26 (34)
Breach Probation	329 (248)	56 (50)	385 (298)
Fraud - Summary	62 (66)	11 (16)	73 (82)
False Pretences - Summary	10 (11)	1 (1)	11 (12)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Summary	74 (81)	15 (18)	89 (99)
Theft - Summary	360 (328)	63 (45)	423 (373)
Other Breach and F.T.A.	200 (155)	36 (18)	236 (173)
Assault - C	1,380 (1,240)	555 (449)	1,935 (1,689)
M.V.O. - Provincial	9 (18)	4 (1)	13 (19)
Other Federal Offences	114 (89)	37 (35)	151 (124)
Other Provincial Offences	1 (8)	4 (11)	5 (19)
Parole/Prison Law	25 (20)	11 (17)	36 (37)
Appeals - Client	72 (92)	18 (21)	90 (113)
Appeals - Crown	17 (22)	2 (3)	19 (25)
Junior Counsel	6 (4)	1 (2)	7 (6)
	5,878 (5,644)	1,491 (1,389)	7,369 (7,033)

Analysis of Certificates Issued
For the Year Ended March 31, 2000
(with the 1999 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Certificate Classification	Private Bar	Law Centres	Totals
CRIMINAL YOUTH			
Murder	4 (1)	Nil (2)	4 (3)
Attempt Murder	8 (Nil)	1 (Nil)	9 (Nil)
Manslaughter	Nil (1)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (1)
Sexual Assault - A	2 (Nil)	Nil (1)	2 (1)
Sexual Assault - Indictable	14 (20)	9 (6)	23 (26)
Assault - B	27 (30)	4 (4)	31 (34)
Robbery	149 (140)	3 (13)	152 (153)
Cause Harm/Death	1 (6)	1 (1)	2 (7)
Other Sexual Offences - B	6 (13)	3 (5)	9 (18)
Arson	60 (17)	6 (3)	66 (20)
Narcotics - B	16 (9)	Nil (2)	16 (11)
Incest	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
Sexual Assault - Summary	5 (6)	5 (4)	10 (10)
Miscellaneous - B	2 (3)	Nil (Nil)	2 (3)
Other Sexual Offences - C	1 (2)	Nil (Nil)	1 (2)
Break, Enter	291 (363)	69 (61)	360 (424)
Possess Weapon Dangerous to Public Peace	27 (34)	10 (2)	37 (36)
Theft - Indictable	73 (89)	5 (6)	78 (95)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Indictable	30 (37)	9 (4)	39 (41)
Forgery/Uttering	2 (10)	1 (Nil)	3 (10)
Fraud - Indictable	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
Mischief	39 (65)	19 (20)	58 (85)

(Table continued on next page)

Certificate Classification	Private Bar	Law Centres	Totals
U.A.L./Escape	14 (16)	Nil (Nil)	14 (16)
Other Weapons Offences - C	12 (5)	2 (1)	14 (6)
Communication for the Purpose	4 (Nil)	Nil (1)	4 (1)
Other Narcotics - C	15 (13)	3 (6)	18 (19)
M.V.O. - Federal	8 (9)	2 (2)	10 (11)
Uttering Threats	28 (28)	5 (6)	33 (34)
Obstruction	3 (3)	Nil (Nil)	3 (3)
Breach Probation	27 (30)	3 (1)	30 (31)
Fraud - Summary	8 (4)	2 (Nil)	10 (4)
False Pretences - Summary	Nil (1)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (1)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Summary	33 (30)	1 (4)	34 (34)
Theft - Summary	70 (78)	7 (12)	77 (90)
Other Breach and F.T.A.	9 (15)	3 (Nil)	12 (15)
Assault - C	132 (115)	43 (55)	175 (170)
M.V.O. - Provincial	1 (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	1 (Nil)
Other Federal Offences	13 (9)	3 (4)	16 (13)
Other Provincial Offences	1 (2)	1 (Nil)	2 (2)
Parole/Prison Law	1 (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	1 (Nil)
Youth Transfers	1 (2)	Nil (Nil)	1 (2)
Youth Reviews/Breaches	106 (80)	18 (12)	124 (92)
Appeals - Youth	11 (17)	10 (6)	21 (23)
Junior Counsel	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
	1,254 (1,303)	248 (244)	1,502 (1,547)

Analysis of Certificates Issued
For the Year Ended March 31, 2000
(with the 1999 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Certificate Classification	Private Bar	Law Centres	Totals
CIVIL			
Divorce	891 (949)	486 (470)	1,377 (1,419)
Separation	1,387 (1,372)	620 (660)	2,007 (2,032)
Variation: Maintenance/Enforcement	656 (615)	256 (256)	912 (871)
C.F.S.	623 (612)	310 (321)	933 (933)
Adoption	35 (46)	32 (44)	67 (90)
Parentage Proceeding	668 (760)	424 (540)	1,092 (1,300)
Immigration	85 (70)	22 (28)	107 (98)
Welfare Matters	27 (18)	105 (101)	132 (119)
Other Administrative	27 (26)	54 (61)	81 (87)
Landlord/Tenant	5 (5)	6 (2)	11 (7)
Appeals - Civil	14 (19)	16 (13)	30 (32)
Legal Opinions - Civil	24 (28)	30 (22)	54 (50)
Other - Civil	37 (32)	27 (26)	64 (58)
Youth Court Appointed/Amicus	98 (59)	95 (91)	193 (150)
Workers Compensation	3 (8)	6 (9)	9 (17)
Mental Health Matters	12 (15)	36 (17)	48 (32)
Estate Matters	5 (10)	3 (5)	8 (15)
Defendant - Civil Suit	27 (21)	13 (13)	40 (34)
Plaintiff - Civil Suit	9 (4)	1 (4)	10 (8)
Immigration - Adjudicator's Appointment	Nil (1)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (1)
Private Guardianship	243 (279)	177 (205)	420 (484)
Enforcement Only	7 (11)	11 (8)	18 (19)

(Table continued on next page)

Certificate Classification	Private Bar	Law Centres	Totals
Variation: Access/Custody	390 (373)	105 (102)	495 (475)
Group Application	Nil (Nil)	1 (Nil)	1 (Nil)
Disbursements Only	8 (14)	Nil (Nil)	8 (14)
Other Family	208 (206)	178 (175)	386 (381)
	5,489 (5,553)	3,014 (3,173)	8,503 (8,726)

Analysis of Completed Cases by Types of Case
(Private Bar Only)
For the Year Ended March 31, 2000
(with the 1999 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Type of Aid	Number of Cases	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Case
CRIMINAL ADULT			
Murder	23 (33)	$ 345,189 (243,452)	$ 15,008.21 (7,377.33)
Attempt Murder	22 (32)	67,025 (47,155)	3,046.59 (1,473.60)
Manslaughter	6 (6)	72,248 (48,564)	12,041.37 (8,094.07)
Sexual Assault - A	14 (12)	31,573 (22,600)	2,255.22 (1,883.32)
Import Narcotics	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
Sexual Assault - Indictable	176 (198)	200,499 (218,809)	1,139.20 (1,105.10)
Assault - B	142 (148)	127,991 (120,289)	901.35 (812.76)
Robbery	306 (348)	273,814 (239,961)	894.82 (689.54)
Cause Harm/Death	33 (33)	23,253 (36,979)	704.63 (1,120.57)
Other Sexual Offences - B	52 (51)	48,402 (47,375)	930.80 (928.92)
Arson	38 (46)	25,687 (35,651)	675.97 (775.02)
Narcotics - B	167 (200)	115,556 (117,619)	691.95 (588.10)
Incest	3 (2)	7,493 (1,333)	2,497.58 (666.48)
Sexual Assault - Summary	44 (62)	26,172 (28,570)	594.81 (460.81)
Miscellaneous - B	19 (19)	17,258 (47,986)	908.33 (2,525.56)
Other Sexual Offences - C	15 (10)	6,855 (5,983)	457.03 (598.33)
Break, Enter	684 (719)	283,237 (238,362)	414.09 (331.52)
Possess Weapon Dangerous to Public Peace	140 (183)	47,744 (59,627)	341.03 (325.83)
Theft - Indictable	101 (90)	48,214 (35,936)	477.36 (399.29)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Indictable	83 (74)	30,739 (25,756)	370.35 (348.05)
Forgery/Uttering	60 (84)	18,695 (23,747)	311.58 (282.70)
Fraud - Indictable	42 (38)	40,036 (59,205)	953.25 (1,558.03)

(Table continued on next page)

Type of Aid	Number of Cases	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Case
False Pretences - Indictable	4 (3)	$ 1,269 (1,609)	$ 317.19 (536.23)
Mischief	161 (135)	49,497 (51,755)	307.43 (383.37)
U.A.L./Escape	49 (29)	14,161 (7,588)	289.01 (261.64)
Other Weapons Offences - C	70 (55)	32,812 (18,894)	468.75 (343.54)
Set Fire to Substance	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
Communication for the Purpose	20 (9)	4,915 (2,248)	245.76 (249.74)
Other Narcotics - C	84 (98)	41,932 (42,111)	499.19 (429.70)
M.V.O. - Federal	216 (225)	60,256 (56,308)	278.96 (250.26)
Uttering Threats	363 (347)	126,409 (116,541)	348.23 (335.85)
Obstruction	20 (23)	6,860 (8,925)	342.98 (388.03)
Breach Probation	300 (240)	79,461 (69,920)	264.87 (291.33)
Fraud - Summary	65 (57)	18,707 (15,717)	287.80 (275.74)
False Pretences - Summary	12 (10)	4,320 (2,418)	359.97 (241.79)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Summary	75 (68)	19,196 (18,779)	255.95 (276.16)
Theft - Summary	346 (333)	108,210 (86,168)	312.75 (258.76)
Other Breach and F.T.A.	178 (151)	51,801 (41,572)	291.01 (275.31)
Assault - C	1,295 (1,220)	465,509 (417,854)	359.47 (342.50)
M.V.O. - Provincial	11 (21)	3,173 (8,133)	288.46 (387.26)
Other Federal Offences	104 (74)	49,543 (24,998)	476.37 (337.81)
Other Provincial Offences	1 (13)	572 (5,362)	572.35 (412.48)
Parole/Prison Law	42 (33)	11,680 (7,620)	278.10 (230.92)
Appeals - Client	76 (101)	89,016 (69,715)	1,171.26 (690.25)
Appeals - Crown	22 (17)	30,698 (14,124)	1,395.38 (830.80)
Junior Counsel	4 (5)	13,680 (14,682)	3,419.95 (2,936.36)
	5,688 (5,655)	$ 3,141,358 (2,807,996)	$ 552.28 (496.55)

Analysis of Completed Cases by Types of Case
(Private Bar Only)
For the Year Ended March 31, 2000
(with the 1999 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Type of Aid	Number of Cases	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Case
CRIMINAL YOUTH			
Murder	Nil (8)	$ 4,791 (30,442)	$ Nil (3,805.28)
Attempt Murder	6 (2)	6,108 (1,792)	1,017.98 (895.83)
Manslaughter	1 (1)	5,074 (4,160)	5,073.54 (4,159.99)
Sexual Assault - Weapon	1 (Nil)	1,253 (Nil)	1,252.65 (Nil)
Import Narcotics	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
Sexual Assault - Indictable	20 (25)	13,233 (17,358)	661.66 (694.30)
Assault - B	25 (30)	17,593 (27,834)	703.72 (927.81)
Robbery	154 (163)	105,587 (111,406)	685.63 (683.47)
Cause Harm/Death	1 (7)	1,552 (3,342)	1,552.12 (477.41)
Other Sexual Offences - B	6 (13)	6,845 (10,068)	1,140.85 (774.48)
Arson	29 (21)	17,624 (12,865)	607.72 (612.63)
Narcotics - B	12 (10)	6,302 (5,101)	525.18 (510.09)
Incest	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
Sexual Assault - Summary	7 (2)	6,373 (1,105)	910.37 (552.60)
Miscellaneous - B	2 (5)	973 (2,113)	486.49 (422.63)
Other Sexual Offences - C	1 (1)	1,442 (187)	1,442.27 (186.78)
Break, Enter	312 (394)	116,333 (115,316)	372.86 (292.68)
Possess Weapons Dangerous to Public Peace	29 (34)	11,687 (8,924)	402.99 (262.46)
Theft - Indictable	70 (90)	20,445 (24,374)	292.07 (270.82)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Indictable	30 (45)	7,746 (10,616)	258.18 (235.92)
Forgery/Uttering	9 (5)	2,306 (1,867)	256.27 (373.49)
Fraud - Indictable	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)

(Table continued on next page)

Type of Aid	Number of Cases	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Case
Mischief	48 (60)	$ 13,703 (13,111)	$ 285.49 (218.51)
U.A.L./Escape	11 (20)	2,814 (3,485)	255.82 (174.27)
Other Weapons Offences	8 (9)	1,597 (2,752)	199.62 (305.77)
Communication for the Purpose	4 (1)	731 (710)	182.74 (709.80)
Other Narcotics - C	16 (9)	4,405 (1,467)	275.28 (163.04)
M.V.O. - Federal	8 (8)	2,782 (2,242)	347.80 (280.26)
Uttering Threats	29 (39)	13,273 (9,638)	457.68 (247.12)
Obstruction	4 (4)	1,056 (1,600)	264.11 (400.06)
Breach Probation	21 (31)	5,092 (6,368)	242.46 (205.42)
Fraud - Summary	5 (6)	935 (937)	186.98 (156.09)
False Pretences - Summary	Nil (2)	28 (428)	Nil (213.94)
Possess Goods Obtained by by Crime - Summary	36 (23)	9,140 (5,848)	253.88 (254.25)
Theft - Summary	63 (72)	16,403 (16,999)	260.37 (236.10)
Other Breach and F.T.A.	10 (16)	3,601 (5,849)	360.12 (365.58)
Assault - C	128 (138)	38,870 (43,156)	303.67 (312.73)
M.V.O. - Provincial	1 (Nil)	447 (Nil)	446.52 (Nil)
Other Federal Offences	10 (8)	1,822 (1,522)	182.16 (190.26)
Other Provincial Offences	1 (2)	404 (360)	403.98 (180.18)
Parole/Prison Law	1 (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
Youth Transfers	Nil (4)	77 (1,930)	Nil (482.54)
Youth Reviews/Breaches	99 (64)	23,045 (12,022)	232.78 (187.84)
Appeals - Youth	14 (15)	9,574 (9,643)	683.83 (642.84)
	1,232 (1,387)	$ 503,064 (528,937)	$ 408.33 (381.35)

Analysis of Completed Cases by Types of Case
(Private Bar Only)
For the Year Ended March 31, 2000
(with the 1999 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Type of Aid	Number of Cases	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Case
CIVIL			
Divorce	975 (1,035)	$ 548,824 (605,952)	$ 562.90 (585.46)
Separation	1,326 (1,344)	663,795 (653,106)	500.60 (485.94)
Variation: Maintenance/Enforcement	623 (603)	318,828 (300,599)	511.76 (498.51)
C.F.S.	598 (631)	444,912 (407,246)	744.00 (645.40)
Adoption	46 (51)	21,398 (26,478)	465.17 (519.18)
Parentage Proceeding	717 (710)	386,757 (383,481)	539.41 (540.11)
Immigration	63 (98)	45,118 (58,512)	716.16 (597.06)
Welfare Matters	27 (24)	8,821 (6,408)	326.71 (266.99)
Other Administrative	28 (30)	11,764 (11,913)	420.14 (397.11)
Landlord/Tenant	5 (2)	2,273 (623)	454.65 (311.66)
Appeals - Civil	19 (19)	17,815 (41,366)	937.63 (2,177.14)
Legal Opinions - Civil	31 (27)	8,947 (8,389)	288.61 (310.72)
Other - Civil	32 (44)	15,599 (17,223)	487.46 (391.44)
Youth Court Appointed/Amicus	80 (66)	43,230 (29,963)	540.38 (453.99)
Workers Compensation	9 (7)	7,644 (2,469)	849.31 (352.73)
Mental Health Matters	21 (16)	5,210 (4,022)	248.11 (251.37)
Estate Matters	5 (2)	1,653 (773)	330.58 (386.60)
Defendant - Civil Suit	36 (42)	27,452 (36,175)	762.57 (861.30)
Plaintiff - Civil Suit	7 (4)	11,857 (2,873)	1,693.93 (718.18)
Immigration - Adjudicator's Appointment	1 (1)	472 (102)	472.30 (102.35)
Private Guardianship	241 (253)	123,756 (143,545)	513.51 (567.37)
Enforcement Only	11 (22)	3,436 (4,563)	312.37 (207.43)

(Table continued on next page)

Type of Aid	Number of Cases	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Case
Variation: Access/Custody	381 (389)	$ 214,415 (212,020)	$ 562.77 (545.04)
Group Application	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
Disbursements Only	4 (2)	7,408 (16,208)	1,851.91 (8,104.20)
Other Family	215 (147)	88,272 (69,392)	410.57 (472.05)
	5,501 (5,569)	$ 3,029,656 (3,043,402)	$ 550.75 (546.49)

Note: *As of March 31, 2000 there were approximately 14,821 cases yet to be completed and paid compared to 14,839 in the previous year.*

Legal Aid Fees and Disbursements by Area
(Private Bar Only)
For the Year Ended March 31, 2000
(with the 1999 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

	Total Fees and Disbursements	Completed Cases	Average Cost Per Case
CRIMINAL ADULT			
Brandon	130,762 (175,291)	375 (438)	348.70 (400.21)
Dauphin	119,628 (116,594)	339 (353)	352.89 (330.30)
The Pas & Thompson	294,096 (291,774)	607 (634)	484.51 (460.21)
Winnipeg	2,596,871 (2,224,336)	4,367 (4,230)	594.66 (525.85)
CRIMINAL YOUTH			
Brandon	40,025 (38,792)	105 (121)	381.19 (320.60)
Dauphin	32,836 (31,696)	71 (108)	462.48 (293.48)
The Pas & Thompson	44,760 (59,498)	100 (163)	447.60 (365.02)
Winnipeg	385,443 (398,952)	956 (995)	403.18 (400.96)
CIVIL			
Brandon	181,206 (225,345)	445 (454)	407.20 (496.35)
Dauphin	107,461 (126,565)	232 (280)	463.20 (452.02)
The Pas & Thompson	164,578 (113,691)	387 (251)	425.27 (452.95)
Winnipeg	2,576,410 (2,577,801)	4,437 (4,584)	580.66 (562.35)
	$ 6,674,077 (6,380,335)	12,421 (12,611)	$ 537.32 (505.93)

NOTE: Reconciliation to private bar fees and disbursements disclosed on the financial statements:

Fees and disbursements per private system as above	*$ 6,674,077*
Add: Accruals	*36,342*
Less: Repayment of Holdback	*207,910*
Fees and disbursements on an accrual basis as per the financial statements	*$ 6,918,329*

Duty Counsel Fees and Disbursements
(Private Bar Only)
For the Year Ended March 31, 2000
(with the 1999 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

	Total Fees and Disbursements	Persons Assisted	Average Cost Per Case
Brandon	1,416 (3,228)	49 (132)	28.89 (24.46)
Dauphin	3,184 (733)	110 (41)	28.94 (17.89)
The Pas & Thompson	31,266 (28,739)	818 (762)	38.22 (37.71)
Winnipeg	17,759 (14,079)	688 (502)	25.81 (28.05)
	$ 53,624 (46,779)	1,665 (1,437)	$ 32.21 (32.55)

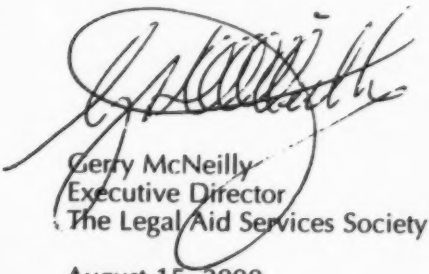
NOTE: The financial statements show total duty counsel disbursements of $133,206. That figure includes disbursements of $13,335 for Age and Opportunity, $21,892 for on-call duty counsel, $36,346 for Portage Legal Services, $741 for Thompson Legal Services and, $7,268 for communication and travel costs recorded in the fiscal year.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING

The accompanying financial statements of The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba are the responsibility of management and have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies stated in Note 2 to the financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2000.

As management is responsible for the integrity of the financial statements, management has established systems of internal control to provide reasonable assurance that assets are properly accounted for and safeguarded from loss.

The responsibility of the Provincial Auditor is to express an independent professional opinion on whether the financial statements are fairly presented in accordance with the accounting policies stated in the financial statements. The Auditor's Report outlines the scope of the audit examination and provides the audit opinion.



Gerry McNeilly
Executive Director
The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba

August 15, 2000

Office of the Provincial Auditor

500 - 330 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
CANADA R3C 0C4

AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba
To the Board of Directors of The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba

We have audited the balance sheet of The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba as at March 31, 2000 and the statements of revenue and expenditure and net assets and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Society's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba as at March 31, 2000 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies stated in note 2 to the financial statements.

Larry Unryn

Winnipeg, Manitoba
August 14, 2000

Larry Unryn, CA
for the Provincial Auditor

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Balance Sheet
as at March 31, 2000
(with 1999 figures for comparison)

ASSETS	2000	1999
Current Assets		
Bank	$ 558,750	$ 477,539
Client accounts receivable, net (Note 3)	960,809	942,715
Receivable from the Province of Manitoba	106,000	0
Other receivables, net (Note 4)	103,524	106,169
Prepaid expense	63,155	61,114
	1,792,238	1,587,537
Long-term receivable from the Province of Manitoba (Note 5)	716,166	716,166
Long-term funding commmitments - Province of Manitoba (Note 12)	6,432,631	5,704,622
	$ 8,941,035	$ 8,008,325

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable	$ 754,964	$ 475,412
Accrued vacation pay	631,671	576,235
Deferred revenue from clients	348,009	316,727
Deferred contribution from Province of Manitoba (Note 6)	170,770	153,912
	1,905,414	1,522,286
Severance liability (Note 5)	843,227	765,290
Provision for employee pension benefits (note 12)	6,432,631	5,704,622
Net Assets	(240,237)	16,127
	$ 8,941,035	$ 8,008,325

Approved by the Board

Chairperson

Director

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Statement of Revenue and Expenditure, and Net Assets
for the year ended March 31, 2000
(with 1999 figures for comparison)

	2000	1999
Revenue		
Province of Manitoba (Note 7)	$ 14,178,983	$ 13,377,396
Manitoba Law Foundation (Note 8)	1,687,438	835,148
Contributions from clients	914,303	804,437
Recoveries from third parties	639,459	548,294
Government of Canada	1,593	1,617
Judgment costs and settlements	139,115	125,787
Interest income	29,534	27,467
Other	0	500
	$ 17,590,425	$ 15,720,646
Expenditure		
Private bar fees and disbursements, net (Note 11)		
Legal aid certificates	$ 6,918,329	$ 6,329,222
Duty counsel services	135,109	161,064
Transcripts and Other Contributed Services	84,893	98,796
	7,138,331	6,589,082
Community Law Centres, Schedule 1	6,683,091	6,091,651
Public Interest Law Centre, Schedule 1	534,231	425,290
University Law Centre, Schedule 1	77,236	63,761
General and administrative, Schedule 1	3,413,900	2,579,411
	$ 17,846,789	$ 15,749,195
Excess of revenue over (under) expenditure, operations	(256,364)	(28,549)
Excess of revenue over (under) expenditure, special trial (note 6)	0	0
Excess of revenue over (under) expenditure	(256,364)	(28,549)
Net Assets, beginning of year	16,127	44,676
Net Assets, end of year	$ (240,237)	$ 16,127

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Statement of Cash Flow
for the year ended March 31, 2000
(with 1999 figures for comparison)

	2000	1999
Cash Flow Provided by (Used In) Operating Activities:		
Excess of revenue over (under) expenditure for the year	$ (256,364)	$ (28,549)
Add (deduct) items not affecting cash		
Bad Debt Expense	321,251	161,795
Changes in working capital:		
Client accounts receivable	(339,346)	(118,893)
Province of Manitoba receivable	(106,000)	(381,166)
Other receivables	2,645	(72,679)
Prepaid expense	(2,041)	115,308
Accounts payable and accrued vacation pay	334,988	(170,572)
Deferred revenue	31,283	(19,999)
Deferred contribution from Province of Manitoba	16,858	153,912
	3,274	(360,843)
Cash Flow Provided by (Used In) Financing Activities:		
Increase in long-term funding commitments	(728,009)	(5,704,622)
Increase in severance liability	77,937	765,290
Increase in provision for employee pension benefits	728,009	5,704,622
	77,937	765,290
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash for the Year	81,211	404,447
Cash - Beginning of Year	477,539	73,092
Cash - End of Year	558,750	477,539

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Schedule of Expenditures
For the Year Ended March 31, 2000
(with 1999 figures for comparison)

	COMMUNITY LAW CENTRES		PUBLIC INTEREST LAW CENTRE		UNIVERSITY LAW CENTRE		GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE		TOTAL	
	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999
Advertising	$ 0	$ 232	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 16,320	$ 14,263	$ 16,320	$ 14,495
Bad debts	0	0	0	0	0	0	321,251	181,795	321,251	181,795
Bank charges	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,882	1,922	1,882	1,922
Board expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	31,319	30,577	31,319	30,577
Collection costs	0	0	0	0	0	0	18,810	15,257	18,810	15,257
Computer costs	84,798	62,903	5,788	1,942	0	0	97,340	33,112	187,926	97,957
Duty counsel	100,480	88,380	0	0	0	0	3,360	1,502	103,840	89,882
Equipment maintenance	57,804	54,042	3,810	0	0	0	24,949	22,460	86,363	76,502
Expert witnesses & consultants	0	0	85,911	38,854	0	0	0	0	85,911	38,854
File disbursements	250,544	218,723	63,217	36,327	1,178	1,386	6,088	4,234	321,027	260,660
Furniture and equipment, net of disposals	68,231	9,291	5,819	480	0	0	30,120	8,804	103,970	18,364
Library	43,184	38,563	9,860	9,447	324	323	11,671	14,518	65,039	63,851
Meetings	9,402	8,376	384	0	0	0	19,499	12,907	29,285	17,883
Office expenses	190,333	148,727	15,322	9,800	3,178	2,153	122,408	108,094	291,242	268,774
Office relocation	2,675	0	470	0	0	0	5,261	0	8,415	0
Pension costs (note 12)	0	0	0	0	0	0	758,882	415,942	758,882	415,942
Premise costs	375,450	377,497	17,730	18,433	0	23	114,380	109,314	507,578	505,267
Professional fees	136,458	139,249	11,778	11,006	10,500	4,300	118,913	157,183	275,649	311,737
Salaries, benefits and levy	5,027,633	4,801,257	317,445	291,334	57,000	90,483	1,508,222	1,350,852	6,910,300	6,302,926
Severance Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0	77,937	48,125	77,937	48,125
Staff development	25,277	22,048	4,488	3,290	0	0	48,582	3,159	78,314	28,506
Staff recruitment	3,244	9,126	0	487	0	0	0	7,235	3,244	16,848
Telephone	107,130	106,589	5,384	1,391	1,775	1,986	58,155	38,668	172,424	148,591
Transcripts and Other Contributed Services	89,800	94,066	0	0	0	0	0	0	89,800	94,066
Travel	151,069	113,612	7,030	4,702	3,261	3,128	10,581	10,100	190,861	131,542
TOTAL	$ 6,683,091	$ 6,091,861	$ 634,231	$ 425,290	$ 77,236	$ 83,781	$ 3,413,900	$ 2,979,411	$ 10,708,458	$ 9,180,113

1. Nature of the Society

The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba (the Society) was established by an Act of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba.

The objects of the Society, as set out in the Act, are:

- to provide legal advice and services to individuals, groups and organizations who, left to their own means, could not afford to retain the service of a lawyer.

- to furnish legal aid advice to groups and organizations involving matters of an interest common to members of the group and relating to issues of public interest such as, but not restricted to, consumer and environmental issues.

The Society is economically dependent upon the Province of Manitoba. Other revenue sources include the Manitoba Law Foundation, individual clients, and third party agencies.

2. Significant Accounting Policies

a) Accounting Basis

The financial statements are prepared on an accrual basis of accounting except for:
i) Private bar fees and disbursements which are recognized as expenditures based on lawyers' billings dates rather than the dates of providing required services.
ii) Capital Assets are charged to operations in the year acquired. Proceeds of disposal are reflected as reductions to expenditures.

b) Recognition of Contributions from Clients

Clients may be required to pay a portion or all of the legal costs incurred on their behalf by the Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba based on the clients' ability to pay.

i) Agreements to Pay

Clients who are able to pay, sign an agreement to pay for their portion of the applicable legal costs. The amount the client is required to pay is specified on the legal aid certificate. The revenue and receivable are recognized when the certificate is signed.

ii) Expanded Eligibility

Under terms of expanded eligibility, clients are required to pay all of the legal costs and an administration fee of 25%. The revenue and receivable are recognized based on the date of the lawyer's billing.

iii) Charges on Land

Charges on Land are registered under Section 17 of the Legal Aid Services Society Act in Land Titles on property owned by clients. The revenue and

receivable are recognized at the later of the date the lien is filed or the date of the lawyer's billing. Collection of these accounts in the future is dependent on the client disposing of the property or arranging for payment.

c) Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

An allowance for doubtful accounts is recorded against receivables based on a specific review of accounts, except for the allowance against charges on land, which is recorded at 50% of the outstanding balance.

d) Contributed Services

Under an arrangement between the Society and the Department of Justice, the Department provides transcripts and other services to the Society at no cost. The value of these contributed services is recorded as revenue and as an expenditure.

e) Measurement Uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingencies at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

f) Pension Plan

Employees of the Society are pensionable under the Civil Service Superannuation Act. The Corporation accrues a provision for the liability for the employer's share of employee pension benefits, including future cost of living adjustments, based on an actuarial valuation.

3. Client Accounts Receivable, net

	2000	1999
Agreements to Pay	$ 63,188	$ 67,464
Expanded Eligibility	416,444	412,878
Charges on Land	1,538,391	1,463,489
	2,018,023	1,943,831
Less: Allowance for Doubtful Accounts	1,057,214	1,001,116
Clients Accounts Receivable, net	$ 960,809	$ 942,715

4. Other Receivables, net

	2000	1999
Court Costs	$ 188,501	$ 167,557
Child & Family Services	9,606	11,882
Social Services	82,728	24,093
Employee Advances and GST Recoverable	3,081	3,039
	283,916	206,571
Less: Allowance for Doubtful Accounts	180,392	100,402
Other Receivables, net	$ 103,524	$ 106,169

5. Severance pay benefits

Effective April 1, 1998, Legal Aid is recording accumulated severance pay benefits for their employees. Severance pay is determined by multiplying years of service, to a maximum of fifteen years, by the weekly salary at date of retirement, provided the employee reaches nine years of service and retires from Legal Aid. The estimate is based upon the method of calculation set by the Province of Manitoba.

The Province accepted responsibility for the severance benefits accumulated by Legal Aid employees to March 31, 1998. Accordingly, the opening severance pay liability balance as at April 1, 1998 of $716,166 was completely offset by a receivable from the Province. There are no terms of repayment for the receivable, and the amount will remain fixed at $716,166.

6. Special Trial

During the fiscal year ended March 31, 1999, Legal Aid retained counsel for a number of accused under a special order from the Province of Manitoba. These retainers are not governed by Legal Aid tariff or regulations but are a special agreement between the Private Bar and Legal Aid. All funding received from the Province of Manitoba for this trial is restricted solely for expenditures incurred in the process of defending those accused. Any funding not committed at the end of the special trial must be returned to the Province of Manitoba.

	2000	1999
Revenue from the Province of Manitoba	$ 1,816,360	$ 157,088
Expenditures, Private Bar	1,816,360	157,088
Excess of revenue over (under) expenditure	$ 0	$ 0

At March 31, 2000, Legal Aid was holding $170,770 in deferred contributions from the Province of Manitoba pertaining to this special trial.

7. Revenue from the Province of Manitoba

	2000	1999
Grant	$ 7,393,120	$ 7,056,940
Salaries and other payments	6,065,741	5,625,493
Health and post secondary education tax levy	129,284	125,194
Employer portion of employee benefits	416,345	376,907
Contributed Services	174,493	192,862
	$ 14,178,983	$ 13,377,396

Funding from the Province of Manitoba includes the Society's share of provisions recorded for unfunded pension liabilities.

8. Revenue from the Manitoba Law Foundation

	2000	1999
Statutory Grant	$ 1,492,438	$ 690,148
Public Interest Law Centre	150,000	100,000
University Law Centre	45,000	45,000
	$ 1,687,438	$ 835,148

A statutory grant, pursuant to subsection 65(1) of The Law Society Act, is received annually from The Manitoba Law Foundation. The Society's share under the Act is 50% of the total interest on lawyers' trust accounts as received by the Foundation or a minimum of $1,007,629, whichever is greater. In the event that interest received by the Foundation in the preceding year, after deduction of the Foundation's operational expenses, is not sufficient to pay the statutory minimum of $1,007,629 to The Legal Aid Services Society, the Act provides for pro-rata sharing of the net interest.

For March, 2000 the amount of the grant exceeded the minimum due to higher interest rates during 1998/99 and the level of lawyer trust accounts.

Other grants from The Manitoba Law Foundation are received pursuant to subsection 65(4) of The Law Society Act. These grants are restricted for the Public Interest Law Centre and the University Law Centre. At March 31, 2000, there were no unrestricted funds remaining from these grants.

9. Commitments

i) Lease

The Society rents facilities under operating leases. Unpaid remaining commitments under the leases, which expire at varying dates to March 31, 2005 are:

2001	$ 393,667
2002	$ 422,473
2003	$ 365,079
2004	$ 334,227
2005	$ 334,227
	$ 1,849,673

ii) Private Bar

Estimated total commitments for future billings on outstanding legal aid certificates amount to $7,284,000 as at March 31, 2000 (1999 - $6,941,000).

10. Related Parties Transactions

The Society is related in terms of common ownership to all Province of Manitoba created departments, agencies and crown corporations. The Society enters into transactions with these entities in the normal course of business.

11. Private Bar Fees and Disbursements, net

	Fees	Disbursements	2000 Total	1999 Total
Legal Aid Certificates	$ 6,199,995	$ 845,812	$ 7,045,807	$ 6,522,537
Reduction in fees	(346,517)	0	(346,517)	(394,521)
Holdback Repayment	219,039	0	219,039	201,206
	6,072,517	845,812	6,918,329	6,329,222
Duty Counsel	136,250	0	136,250	162,917
Reduction in fees	(3,172)	0	(3,172)	(3,781)
Holdback Repayment	2,031	0	2,031	1,928
	135,109	0	135,109	161,064
Transcripts and Other Contributed Services	0	84,893	84,893	98,796
Net	$ 6,207,626	$ 930,705	$ 7,138,331	$ 6,589,082

For March 31, 2000 the reduction in private bar fees totaled $349,689 (1999 - $398,302). Subsequent to the year end, the Board has determined that $209,813 will be refunded for private bar fees reduced during 1999/2000. The amount of the repayment is reflected above.

Since 1992 the private bar fees have been reduced by a percentage determined by the Board. The specific reduction applied to the private bar fees is the reduction in fees approved by the Board relating to the year in which the legal aid file was opened. For March 31, 2000 the percentage reduction in fees approved by the Board was set at 5% (12% for March 31, 1999) for criminal matters only. There is no liability for the reduction in fees holdback beyond the repayment approved by the Board each year.

12. Pension Costs

These costs consist of the employer's share of pension benefits paid to retired employees, as well as the increase in the unfunded pension liability during the fiscal year. This liability is determined by an actuarial valuation every three years with the balances for the intervening years being determined by formula provided by the actuary. The most recent valuation was completed as at December 31, 1998.

The Province of Manitoba has accepted responsibility for the unfunded portion of the pension liability. Accordingly the provision for employee pension benefits is offset by a receivable from the Province of Manitoba. There are no terms of repayment for this receivable.

13. Public Sector Compensation Disclosure

For the purposes of the Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act, all compensation for employees, Board members and the private bar fees and disbursements from The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba is disclosed in a separate statement.

14. Change in Accounting Policy

During the year, the Society changed its accounting policy regarding the recognition of its liability for pension obligations. Commencing in 1999/2000, a provision has been recorded for the Society's share of employees' current and past service pension benefits. This change in accounting policy has been applied on a retroactive basis.

Accordingly, long-term liabilites and future funding commitments have been restated as at April 1, 1999 by $5,704,622 (1998 - $5,319,400) to reflect the effects of the change in accounting policy. This change in accounting policy does not affect the excess of expenditure over revenue.

15. Financial Instruments

Legal Aid Services Society's financial instruments consist of cash, short-term investments, accounts receivable, accounts payable, and accrued liabilities. Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the Society is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from these financial instruments. The fair value of these financial instruments approximates their carrying values.

16. Comparative Figures

Certain 1999 figures have been reclassified to conform to the 2000 financial statement presentation.

Office of the Provincial Auditor
500 - 330 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
CANADA R3C 0C4

AUDITORS' REPORT

Supplementary Financial Information Prepared in Accordance with The Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act

To the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba, and
To the Board of Directors of The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba

We have audited the Statement of Compensation Paid to Board Members and Employees and the Statement of Private Bar Fees and Disbursements in Excess of $50,000 for The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba for the year ended March 31, 2000 prepared in accordance with Sections 2 and 4 of The Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act. This financial information is the responsibility of the management of The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial information based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial information is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial information. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial information.

In our opinion, these statements present fairly, in all material respects, the compensation payments to board members and employees, and payments to persons providing legal aid services for the year ended March 31, 2000 by The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba in accordance with the provisions of The Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act.

Larry Unryn

Winnipeg, Manitoba
August 14, 2000

Larry Unryn, CA
for the Provincial Auditor

The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba
Statement of Compensation Paid to Board Members and Employees
For the year Ended March 31,2000
(Prepared in accordance with Section 2 of the Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act)

Paid to Board Members:	
In aggregate	$26,823.00

Paid to employees in excess of $50,000:

Name	Position	Amount
McNeilly, G.K.	Executive Director	$90,908.41
Klassen, R.G.	Deputy Director	86,831.52
McDonald, T.	Supervising Attorney	84,987.55
Malcolm, W.L.	Supervising Attorney	84,501.44
Dunn, W.	Legal Director	84,004.02
Merrett,W.	Area Director	84,004.02
Tailleur, L.J.	Supervising Attorney	83,662.76
Peltz, A.	Director	83,172.12
Sandhu, F.H.	Supervising Attorney	83,078.95
Sherman, C.D.	Supervising Attorney	82,741.20
Clifford. G.	Supervising Attorney	81,870.08
Koturbash, T.M.	Supervising Attorney	81,870.08
Allen, H.L.	Supervising Attorney	81,619.68
Giesbrecht, L.B.	Supervising Attorney	81,619.68
Paluk, M.D.	Supervising Attorney	81,619.68
Bates,G.D.	Staff Attorney	81,102.28
Pitts, H.	Staff Attorney	80,549.65
Hawrysh, G.B.	Staff Attorney	78,971.20
Hwozdulych, B.A.	Staff Attorney	78,971.20
Zlotnick, M.	Staff Attorney	78,102.12
Elliott, J.	Staff Attorney	78,100.92
Birks, C.G..	Staff Attorney	77,849.68
Brecht, R.B.	Staff Attorney	77,849.68
Cadloff, K.A.	Staff Attorney	77,849.68
Chartrand, L..R.	Staff Attorney	77,849.68
Congdon, W.J.G.	Staff Attorney	77,849.68
Dzydz, D.	Staff Attorney	77,849.68
Grafton, R.N.	Staff Attorney	77,849.68
Hart, M. E.	Staff Attorney	77,849.68
Heinrichs, R.M.	Staff Attorney	77,849.68
Krause, R.	Staff Attorney	77,849.68
Makar, M. S.	Staff Attorney	77,849.68
Peters, H.C.	Staff Attorney	77,849.68
Walker, M.	Staff Attorney	77,849.68
McGarry, A.B.	Staff Attorney	71,962.12
Pauls, C.	Staff Attorney	71,535.18
McCaffrey, K. M.	Staff Attorney	69,016.88
Roller, C.C.	Staff Attorney	67,680.83
Williams, J.B.	Staff Attorney	66,610.38
Harbottle, S.M.	Staff Attorney	65,897.97
Ramsay, J.	MIS Director	64,651.18
Glowacki, L.J.	Staff Attorney	63,226.52
Neustaeter, J.G.	Staff Attorney	62,326.82
Connor, M.	Staff Attorney	61,913.75
MacAulay,G.G.	Staff Attorney	61,309.12
Libman, A.M.	Staff Attorney	60,809.15
Kingsley, P.	Staff Attorney	56,338.35
Baineaves,S.	Information Services Officier	55,983.18

The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba
Statement of Private Bar Fees and Disbursements in Excess of $50,000
For the Year Ended March 31, 2000
(Prepared in accordance with Section 4 of the Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act)

Name of Firm	Amount
CASSIDY, RAMSAY	765,380.61
PHILLIPS, AIELLO	627,839.52
WALSH MICAY & COMPANY	377,019.84
GINDIN, WOLSON, SIMMONDS	319,351.13
HUNT, MILLER & COMBS	221,895.42
SMITH SANSREGRET	166,459.44
ARCHER PHILLIPS LAW OFF.	159,501.88
MARTIN GLAZER LAW OFFICE	138,810.61
PINX ROITENBERG CAMPBELL	137,155.11
LOFCHICK, JONES & ASSOC.	130,280.92
SAHEEL ZAMAN LAW OFFICE	124,612.03
HELIX BIOTECH CORP.	113,431.05
MYERS WEINBERG KUSSIN	110,463.64
BELLAN & COMPANY	106,434.68
DAVID JOYCEY	96,006.47
SANDIP SETT	88,758.05
EDMOND - MUIR	87,427.11
JOHN DOVENER WHITE	86,617.29
KOHAYKEWYCH & ASSOC.	83,444.52
STANLEY S. NOZICK	81,280.85
DENISET & BOILY	73,359.51
KENNETH E. ANDREWS	72,547.82
GISELE CHAMPAGNE	68,111.41
KILLEEN CHAPMAN GARRECK	66,955.46
ROBERTSON SHYPIT SOBLE	65,416.31
WILDER WILDER & ASSOC.	65,204.95
JODY BROWN	63,600.00
POOLE LAW OFFICE	63,497.26
Z. IAN GARBER	53,050.69

The payments reflected in this statement are on a cash basis, net of the private bar reduction in fees.